

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 1-93 are in the case

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version With Markings To Show Changes Made.**"

The action asserts that the claims have not been amended in accordance with the rules. This is not correct. A Supplemental Preliminary Amendment was filed in this case on October 30, 2001 presenting a clean version of the amended claims and a marked-up version showing the changes made.

From the issuance of the action, it appears that the Supplemental Preliminary Amendment of October 30, 2001 has been misplaced in the USPTO as it has not been entered into the file. In light of that, the present response represents the amendments requested in the Supplemental Preliminary Amendment of October 30, 2001 and also presented some new claims for entry and consideration. No new matter is entered.


HOGAN et al
Serial No. 09/939,631

Further action of this case is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____


Leonard C. Mitchard
Reg. No. 29,009

LCM:lks
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 [or 2] in which the electric field between the coating material and the substrate is shaped so that the substrate is in a potential well.
4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1[, 2 or 3] in which a: the coating station the substrate is supported by but electrically isolated from an electrically conductive surface.
6. (Amended) A method according to claim 4 [or 5] in which the surface is at the same potential difference to earth as the coating material.
7. (Amended) A method according to [any preceding claim] claim 1 in which the substrate is held at the coating station at a potential difference to earth.
8. (Amended) A method according to [any preceding claim] claim 1 in which substantially the only motive force between the substrate and the coating material is electrostatic.
9. (Amended) A method according to [any preceding claim] claim 1 in which the substrate is supported, and in electrical contact with an electrode, the substrate being otherwise electrically isolated from its surroundings.
12. (Amended) A method according to [any preceding claim] claim 1 in which the coating material particles are at a potential different to earth.

13. (Amended) A method according to [any preceding claim] claim 1 in which a powdered coating material is used.

17. (Amended) A method according to [any of claims 14, 15 and 16] claim 14 further comprising cooling the fused coating on the substrate.

18. (Amended) A method according to [any of claims 13 to 17] claim 13 further comprising, prior to bringing the substrate to the coating station, bringing the substrate to a preconditioning station at which the exposed surface of the substrate is coated with a capture-enhancing liquid.

20. (Amended) A method according to claim 18 [to 19] in which the capture enhancing liquid is partially conducting.

21. (Amended) A method according to [any of claims 1 to 12] claim 1 in which the coating material is liquid.

22. (Amended) A method according to [any preceding claim] claim 1 in which the substrate is s carried by a support surface having a plurality of individual locations adapted to receive a substrate and hold it electrically isolated from the remainder of the surface and at a predetermined potential difference to earth.

23. (Amended) A method according to [any preceding claim] claim 1 in which the substrate is held in contact with an electrode at least while it is at the coating station.

24. (Amended) A continuous method according to [any preceding claim] claim 1 in which the substrate is carried by the surface of a rotating drum.

25. (Amended) A method according to [any preceding claim] claim 1 further comprising turning the substrate after application of a coating to a first surface of the substrate and applying a coating to a second surface of the substrate.

26. (Amended) A coated substrate produced by a method according to [any of claims 1 to 25] claim 1.

29. (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 27 [or 28] further comprising an electric field shaping device adjacent the substrate which shapes the field so that the substrate is in a potential well.

31. (Amended) Apparatus according to [any of claims 27 to 30] claim 27 further comprising an electrically conductive support surface for, in use, carrying a substrate at least at the coating station such that the substrate is electrically isolated from the support surface.

33. (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 31 [or 32] in which the potential difference of the support surface to earth and of the coating material to earth are of the same sign.

34. (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 31[, 32 or 33] comprising means for holding the support surface at the same potential difference to earth as the coating material.

35. (Amended) Apparatus according to [any of claims 27 to 34] claim 27 comprising means for holding a substrate at the coating station at a potential difference to earth.

36. (Amended) Apparatus according to [any of claims 27 to 34] claim 27 further comprising a fusing station downstream of the coating station for fusing a powdered coating material on the substrate to a film.

39. (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 34[, 37 or 38] further comprising a cooling station downstream of the fusing station.

41. (Amended) Apparatus according to [any of claims 27 to 40] claim 27 further comprising a preconditioning station for supplying capture-enhancing liquid to the exposed surface of a substrate and a conveyor for conveying the substrate between the preconditioning station and the coating station, the preconditioning station being upstream of the coating station.

43. (Amended) Apparatus according to [any of claims 27 to 42] claim 27 comprising an electrode disposed to contact a substrate at the coating station.

47. (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 45 [or 46] in which the support surface is a conveyor disposed between the coating and fusing stations to move the substrate from the coating station to the fusing station.

49. (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 47 [or 48] in which the conveyor is also disposed between the preconditioning and coating stations to move the substrate from the preconditioning station to the coating station.

50. (Amended) Apparatus according to [any of claims 47 to 49] claim 47 in which the conveyor is the outer surface of a rotating drum having discrete areas electrically isolated from the drum surface for the reception of respective

substrates.

52. (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 50 [or 51] in which the said areas are each part of a respective moving electrode, each moving electrode extending inside the drum, the drum further comprising a first arcuate stationary electrode so disposed inside the drum that as one of the said areas passes through the coating station the associated electrode is in electrical contact with the first stationary electrode.

54. (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 52 [or 53] further comprising a second arcuate stationary electrode so disposed inside the drum that as one of the said moving electrodes passes through the preconditioning station it is in electrical contact with the second stationary electrode.

56. (Amended) Apparatus according to [any of claims 50 to 55] claim 50 comprising a vacuum device for holding the substrates on the surface of the drum.

57. (Amended) Apparatus according to [any of claims 50 to 56] claim 50 further comprising a second drum and second coating and fusing stations, the second drum being so disposed relative to the first drum that substrates leaving the first drum with a coated surface are transferred onto the second drum with an uncoated surface exposed.

59. (Amended) A drum for apparatus according to [any of claims 50 to 58] claim 50.

63. (Amended) A coated pharmaceutical according to claim 61 [or 62]

in which the coatings are of different [colours] colors.

64. (Amended) A coated pharmaceutical according to claim 61[, 62 or 63] in which the coatings contain different polymers.